

[24th March 1922]

[The hon. Member was obliged to resume his seat as his time-limit was over.]

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The time allotted for the discussion of Demand XIX—Agriculture having expired, the hon. the President put the question that the Government be given 14·82 lakhs of rupees *minus* Rs. 2,400 for the Agriculture department and it was carried.

The grant was made.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before the House adjourns for lunch, I would mention that it would probably be convenient if we take up immediately after lunch items of business II, III, IV and V on the agenda paper. The first is a piece of legislation which has to be got through and passed before the 1st April. The second is an amendment to the Standing Orders. And the other two relate to elections to committees. So, if hon. Members have no objection, I shall take up items II, III, IV and V immediately after lunch. (The hon. Members signified their assent.) That being settled, the House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

The House then adjourned for lunch at 1-34 p.m. and re-assembled at 2-35 p.m.

II

A BILL TO AMEND THE COURT FEES ACT, 1870.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The following communication has been received from His Excellency the Governor in respect of the Bill to amend the Court-Fees Act, 1870, which was passed at the meeting of the Council held on the 15th March last and was subsequently presented to His Excellency the Governor for his assent:—

Message from His Excellency the Governor.

The proviso which has been added by clause 6 of the Madras Court-Fees (Amendment) Bill to paragraph (iv) of section 7 of the principal Act provides for the calculation of the value of immovable property 'in the manner provided for by the next succeeding paragraph'. The next succeeding paragraph here referred to is obviously paragraph (v) of section 7 of the principal Act. But clause 7 of the Bill has introduced another paragraph—paragraph (iv) (a)—between paragraphs (iv) and (v) of section 7 of the principal Act. The paragraph next succeeding paragraph (iv) of section 7 of the principal Act would thus be paragraph (iv) (a) and not paragraph (v). His Excellency the Governor thinks that in clause 6 of the Bill the words 'the next succeeding paragraph' should be omitted and the words 'paragraph (v) of this section' substituted in their stead.

2. In clause 9 of the Bill the substitution of the word 'instituted' for the penultimate word 'filed' would, His Excellency the Governor considers, be a verbal improvement in the Bill.

3. To avoid possible doubts as to the true scope and interpretation of article 11 of Schedule II it seems desirable to *omit* the words 'and not otherwise provided for in this Act'.

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[The President]

4. His Excellency the Governor therefore returns the Bill to the Council for the consideration of the following amendments :—

Clause 6.—At the end, *omit* the words ‘the next succeeding paragraph’ and *substitute* in their stead the words ‘paragraph (v) of this section’.

Clause 9.—For the penultimate word ‘filed’ *substitute* the word ‘instituted’.

Schedule II, article 11.—In column 1, *omit* the words ‘and not otherwise provided for in this Act’.

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, I want to explain to the House the necessity for these amendments. The House will remember that there was an amendment proposed by Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar in which the words ‘as the next succeeding paragraph’ occurred. If there had been no further amendment, there would have been no trouble. But subsequently Mr. N. A. V. Somasundaram Pillai put forward another amendment to insert a new clause—clause 4 (a)—between clauses 4 and 5. That amendment was carried, and now the next succeeding paragraph would be, if the present wording is retained, clause 4 (a) and not clause 5 as was the intention of the House. That is the first amendment. The next amendment has to be introduced owing to a clerical error. The word ‘instituted’ is to be substituted for the word ‘filed’ to bring the language in conformity with the technical expression. In Schedule II, article 11, column 1, the words ‘not otherwise provided for in this Act’ finds a place owing to the mistake of the copyist. If you read article 1 of Schedule I you will find ‘... or memorandum of appeal (not otherwise provided for in this Act)’. It is in order to avoid that, that this amendment is proposed. All the amendments are only verbal amendments.”

The hon. the President then put the following amendments to the House and they were carried :—

Clause 6.—At the end, *omit* the words ‘the next succeeding paragraph’ and *substitute* in their stead the words ‘paragraph (v) of this section.’

Clause 9.—For the penultimate word ‘filed’ *substitute* the word ‘instituted.’

Schedule II, article 11.—In column 1, *omit* the words ‘and not otherwise provided for in this Act.’

III

AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The hon. Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar wants leave to amend Standing Order 40 as follows :—

‘(1) At the commencement of paragraph (1) of Standing Order 40 *insert* the words ‘The Member of the Government in charge of the Law Department shall ex officio be the Chairman of every Select Committee’; and

‘(2) In paragraph 3 of the same Standing Order, *omit* the first sentence.’

“Does any hon. Member object to it?”

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—“I object, Sir.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Hon. Members who are for the introduction of these amendments to the Standing Orders will please rise in their places.”

Six hon. Members stood up.